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NPIC/TSSG/RED-1778-69
15 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Cancellation of Dual Viewing Comparator Project

1. The concept of adding a second optical train to a Comparator to allow two persons to simultaneously view an object, has been reviewed. The rationale behind the design concept was to develop an instrument which could be used in the training of photogrammetrists and consultations between the photo interpreters and photogrammetrists. The advantages and probable frequency of use of such a device at present do not appear sufficient to justify the anticipated cost.

25X1

2. In discussing the project with photogrammetrists and photo interpreters, the following points were brought up: (a) The dual viewing comparator would improve communications between the photo interpreters and photogrammetrists when discussing start and end points for measuring. (b) The pointing ability of the photogrammetrist trainee is presently verified by checking the punched card output of the trainee's comparator rather than by a former method of visually checking each object the trainee views. (c) If a consultation were required in the middle of a mensuration job, the time required to shift the job to the dual viewing comparator would not justify the advantages of using the dual viewing comparator for the consultation. (d) The number of times that a senior photogrammetrist or a photo interpreter is required to check the start and end points of a measurement does not appear sufficient to warrant the estimated cost of modifying a comparator for dual viewing as opposed to the present method of alternatively viewing the object field.

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3. Under existing circumstances, the dual viewing comparator is not feasible. The advantages of such an instrument are recognized, but the cost to develop the instrument outweighs the advantages. No further investigation of this project will be undertaken unless circumstances change.

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